

To the members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1475 without my signature.

While I am supportive of increasing the amount of coordination and information shared by state agencies, I do not believe that the council established by this bill would provide the most effective method of accomplishing that goal. The council would be tasked with completing a complex and important mission but would have several statutory limitations, including a very short time frame.

Through an Executive Order I am directing the Office of Emergency Services to conduct a comprehensive review of existing programs intended to protect the elderly from all types of abuse and to ensure programs provide more efficient and effective methods for fighting financial crimes against seniors, including potential funding sources to carry out this objective. I am also directing the Office of Emergency Services to develop recommendations that will serve our elderly community by enhancing coordination among law enforcement and governmental agencies in the areas of information-sharing, training, and crime prevention. It is important that protection services are geared to improving the life of our seniors and that is why I am directing our agencies to develop a plan to coordinate state and local efforts.

For these reasons I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger